

**TOWN OF LUDLOW  
SELECT BOARD**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
July 13, 2010**

**Board Members Present:**

Howard Barton, Jr., Chairman, John Neal, Brett Sanderson, Bruce Schmidt, Doug Ficken

**Staff Present:**

Frank Heald, Ulla Cook, Pam Cruickshank

**Others Present:**

Robert Gilmore, Austin Ficken, Hunter Ficken, James Fuller, Marilyn Ledoux

**Call to Order:**

- a. Chairman, Howard Barton Jr. called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Set Town Tax Rate for FY 2011:**

- a. Howard Barton said the purpose of the special meeting was to set the tax rate for FY 2011. He added that the recommended rate from Frank Heald and Ulla Cook was \$0.2447.
- b. Frank Heald said that in normal times we have suggested that we use some of the surplus to pay down the taxes, but we continue to be concerned about the tax appeals and what the town could be on the hook for after December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- c. Howard Barton asked what the total would be if they dropped the rate 1¢.
- d. Frank Heald said \$100,000.
- e. Bruce Schmidt said he struggles with holding onto the money for a rainy day fund vs. using 2¢, which would be more palatable.
- f. Frank Heald said there could be a cash flow problem in December when the first check is sent to the state. He said there is an issue of running a deficit that they would need to make up in taxes next year.
- g. **Motion by John Neal and seconded by Doug Ficken to reduce the Town tax rate for FY 2011 by 1.5¢ using surplus funds to bring the rate down.**
- h. Howard Barton asked for discussion on the motion.
- i. Bruce Schmidt said he is not in favor of rainy day funds.
- j. Howard Barton asked if \$0.2297 would be the official number.
- k. Frank Heald said \$0.2297 would be the official number.
- l. **All in favor and the motion passed unanimously to set the FY2011 Town Tax rate at \$0.2297.**

**Adjourn:**

- a. **Motion by John Neal to adjourn and seconded by Doug Ficken. Motion passed unanimously.**

b. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Cruickshank  
Acting Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Howard Barton Jr., Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Neal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Schmidt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett Sanderson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Ficken